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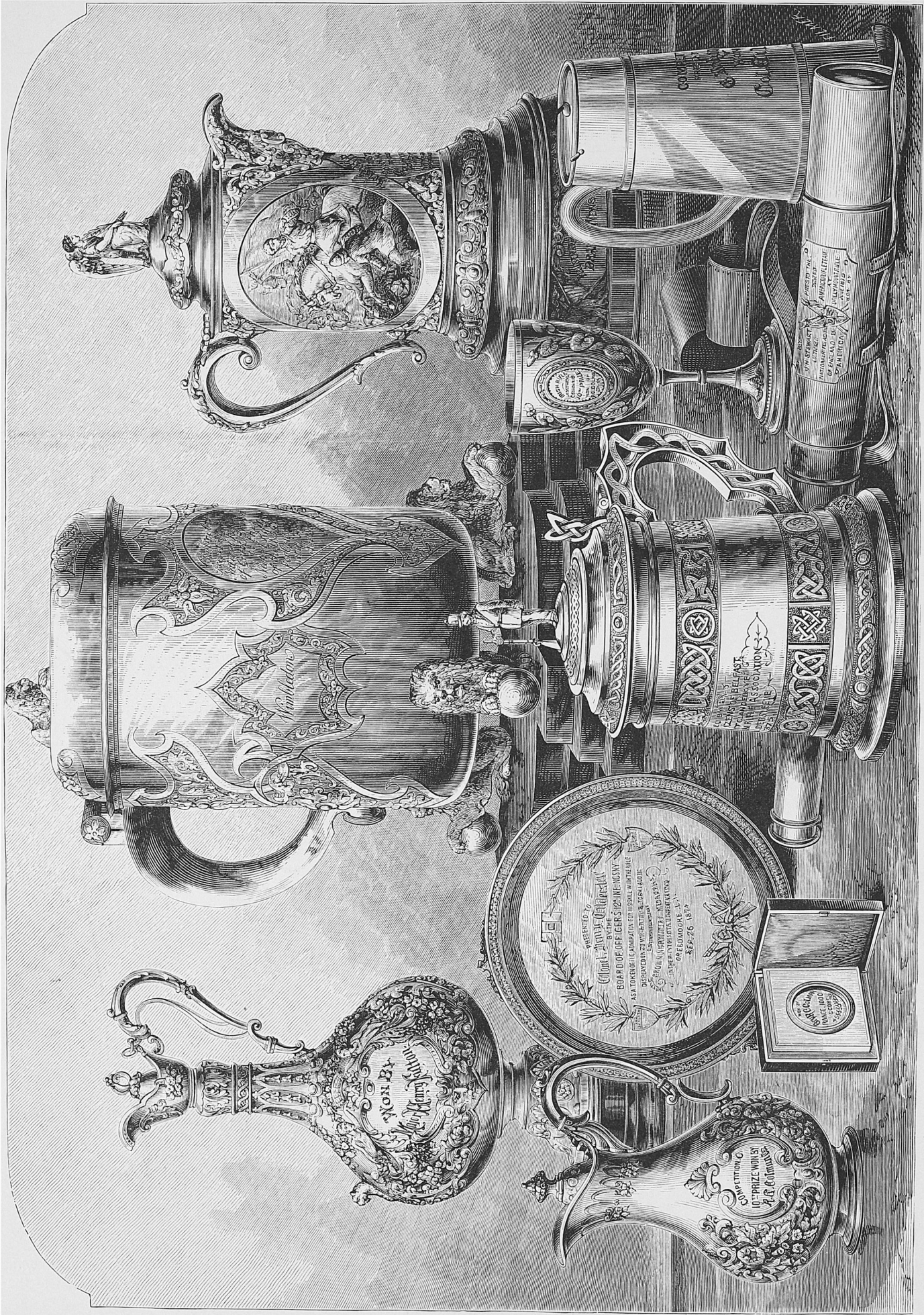
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THE PRIZES OF THE AMERICAN RIFLE-TEAM.

THE TROPHIES OF THE AMERICAN RIFLE-TEAM.

THE prizes won by the American Rifle-Team during their recent excursion abroad, of which we give an engraving on preceding page, are worthy of notice as examples of English Art-workmanship in silver, aside from the interest which attaches to the group as trophies. The largest piece, 'The Challenge Cup,' won by Major Henry Fulton, is in the form of a tankard, and will hold two gallons. It is shaped like an old-fashioned beer-glass, and is supported by three couched lions, the fore-paws of which grasp large silver globes. On the lid there is another couched lion and globe by way of ornament. The body of the tankard is richly chased, and on one side is inscribed the word 'Wimbledon,' while the other bears the date '1875.' The front is inscribed as follows: "Challenge Cup presented by the National Rifle Association of Great Britain to the National Rifle Association of the United States for competition at their annual meeting." The handle is very massive, and at its lower part, where it is joined to the body, there is an engraved shield bearing the legend, "National Rifle Association, founded, 1860." In the centre of the shield there are figures of an archer and a rifleman together with the dates "1300—1500—1860." The tankard weighs one hundred and fifty-five ounces, and is valued at one hundred guineas. It was won by Major Fulton, but will only be held by him until a superior score takes it away.

The 'Abercorn Cup,' another of Major Fulton's prizes, is the most elegant piece of plate in the group. It is in the form of a Grecian vase, and richly decorated with carvings of winged gods and goddesses and floral designs. The shape is very graceful; it is said to have been designed after one of Spanish origin. It is inscribed as follows: "Presented by the Irish Rifle Association for the highest American score in the Abercorn Cup competition, 1875."

The chief prize won by Captain Colman resembles the 'Challenge Cup' in form, but is of smaller size. The front of the body of the cup bears a large shield which is inscribed: "Irish Rifle Association, 1875, Dollymount or Dublin Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News Cup, won by Captain Roswell C. Colman, 19th New York, one of the American Rifle-Team. Score 5. 5. 5, ties 1st 5. 2d 5. Range 500 yards, 16 in. Bull's-eye." On either side of the shield are medallions in low-relief, portraying ancient battle-scenes. The cover supports a seated female figure, with extended arms holding out the laurel-wreath of victory, and the olive-branch of peace. The body rests upon a stand of ebony, bearing the Irish and American flags and a ribbon upon which is inscribed, "Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News Cup." Captain Colman also won three other prizes—a richly-ornamented pitcher, with a medallion inscribed "Competition C, 10th Prize, won by R. C. Colman;" a massive silver goblet, inscribed "Irish Rifle Association, B, won by R. C. Colman;" and a medal, also suitably engraved.

The 'Clandeboy Cup,' won by Colonel Gildersleeve, is a plain but richly-engraved object, and is surmounted by the figure of a volunteer rifleman. The front is inscribed as follows: "Presented by the Mayor and Citizens of Belfast for open competition at Clandeboy on the occasion of the visit of the American Rifle-Team. Won by Colonel H. A. Gildersleeve, July, 1875."

Another cup won by Colonel Gildersleeve is in the form of a tankard chastely engraved, and bearing the satin-finish which is so much admired. It is inscribed, "Competition Cup, presented by E. Johnson. Won by Colonel Gildersleeve." There are also two field-telescopes in the collection, one of which was won by Colonel Bodine, and the other by Colonel Gildersleeve.

ENGLISH SCHOOLS OF ART.

WE regret to learn that Mr. Richard Redgrave, R.A., has been compelled, by failing health, to retire from his post as Director of Art in the Science and Art Department, South Kensington Museum, as it is only recently that Mr. Redgrave had assumed the new position of Director of the Schools of Art throughout the kingdom, thus taking upon himself, unhappily as it now appears, more duty than his increasing years would permit him to fulfil to his own satisfaction.

As Inspector-General for Art, Mr. Redgrave has been connected with the Science and Art Department ever since its formation in 1852. To him the country is indebted for the systematic organisation of the various stages of instruction into which the present official course of tuition is divided; presenting, as they do, in a col-

lective form, a really scientific and artistic routine—which to some minds is no doubt unpleasantly strict and needlessly cumbersome, but certainly affording a well-defined test of what the student has learned during the course of instruction—instead of a mere haphazard method of testing the students by a set competition, in which the clever but possibly lazy and really half-taught pupil may, by a spasmodic effort, do much more than he will ever do again, when free from restraint or guidance.

Mr. Redgrave's withdrawal from the scene of so much earnest labour will be felt in many ways, and we are quite sure will be greatly regretted by all who desire to see Schools of Art intelligently directed to their proper purpose—the cultivation of the Arts of Design in relation to decoration and manufactures.

BEYSCHLAG'S 'PSYCHE.'

BEYSCHLAG'S charming picture of 'Psyche,' which we engrave, was one of the most admired ideal works in the Vienna Exhibition of 1873. The beautiful Psyche is portrayed standing in the forest beside great moss-covered rocks. Wild flowers grow at her feet, and her form is drawn against a dark, wooded background. The figure is exquisitely drawn, and the pose of the fair nymph, as she stands at rest with her eyes cast down upon the urn around which her left arm is thrown, is very graceful. The subject evidently relates to the mythical story of "Psyche and the Eagle," and is told by Mrs. Browning in the following pleasant lines:

"Now fie, thou simple girl!" the bird began;
'For if thou think to steal and carry back
A drop of holiest stream that ever ran,
No simpler thought, methinks, were found in man.
What! know'st thou not these Stygian waters be

Most holy, even to Jove? that as, on earth,
Men swear by gods, and by the thunder's worth,
Even so the heavenly gods do utter forth
Their oaths by Styx's flowing majesty?
And yet, one little urnful, I agree
To grant thy need! Whereat, all hastily,
He takes it, fills it from the willing wave,
And bears it in his beak, incarnadined
By the last Titan-prey he screamed to have;
And, striking calmly out against the wind,
Vast wings on each side—there, where Psyche stands,
He drops the urn down in her lifted hands."

The scene is finely composed, and if it is not fully in accord with the text of the poem, it is certainly a charming conception of the subject, and an admirable contribution to Art.